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Justice

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union
(ILGWU)

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Justice (Vol. 37, Iss. 2)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

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International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, ILGWU, labor unions, clothing workers, textile workers, garment workers, garment industry, New York, United States

Comments

Justice was the official publication of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union ILGWU from 1919 to 1995. Editions of *Justice* were published in English, Italian, Spanish, and Yiddish. When compared side by side, the content of some of these different editions of *Justice* shows significant differences. This is the English-language edition of *Justice*.

JUSTICE

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

Vol. XXXVII, No. 2

Jersey City, N. J., January 15, 1955

Price 10 Cents

L. A. SPORTS WIN 35 HOURS

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Pa. Rules ILG Welfare Pay No Bar to Jobless Benefits

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U. S. Affirms Homeworkers Covered by Wage-Hour Law

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Harvest in St. Louis. Annual dance given by St. Louis locals of Southwest Region recently comes to a climax with scene from floor show presented by ILGWU choral and dance group. Theme of show was "Harvest Songs and Dances." The affair was held in the Jefferson Hotel. Dancer-participants in this lively number are Katy Hart, Barbara Jenkins, Dolores Shibal, Ed Menard.



16th Health Center. The official opening of the Chicago Union Health Center this month is marked by visit to new facilities of distinguished group of visitors. Left to right: Roy Cummins, Illinois State Director of Labor; Dr. Stanley Teller, medical director of the center; Thomas Burke, Javits union officer; Harry Messer, chairman of Chicago Joint Board; Illinois Governor William Stratton; Vice Pres. Morris Bialis, Midwest director. Day-long affair marked inauguration of ILGWU's newest health center—the 16th.



Bi-Local Farewell. Four retiring members of Cutters' Local 10 and Dressmakers' Local 22, all employed at Junior Formal firm in New York, clasp hands in parting gesture at party in their honor recently. Left to right: Harry Solomon, Local 10; Philip Wise, Local 22; Ben Goldner, Local 10; Joe Rubin, Local 22.

Is Peaceful Picketing Finished?

—Pages 6-7



Dress Rehearsal. Erna Lear, member of New York Local 28, Ladies' Tailors and Custom Dressmakers, gives last minute-fitting to Mrs. Averell Harriman, in dress which wife of New York's new Governor wore to inaugural ceremony. Mrs. Harriman let it be known that she wears only union-made clothing from head to toe.

Pa. Rules ILGWU Welfare Benefits No Bar to Jobless Benefits

Pennsylvania's Unemployment Compensation Board of Review has upheld the right of ILGWU members to unemployment pay despite their receipt of union benefits from health and welfare funds established through collective bargaining. It is announced by Vice Pres. David Gingold, director of the Northeast Department.

Before this ruling, receipt of a union benefit was followed by a period of 90 days during which the member was denied full unemployment compensation. Now the union benefit does not affect the eligibility of the worker to receive unemployment pay.

The historic and belated decision by the board clinches a protracted fight by the ILGWU to preserve the integrity of its collective agreements in Pennsylvania. These rights had been challenged by a regulation issued by the State Department of Labor and Industry. The regulation authorized the Unemployment Compensation Bureau to cut unemployment benefits for the first period by applying to that period benefits in the nature of vacation pay received by the workers from the union.

Any claim for unemployment compensation made within 90 days after the worker received the union benefit was to be weighed against the amount of that union benefit. This rule threatened serious loss of unemployment benefits to thousands of garment workers.

When the Health and Welfare Fund of the Northeast Department looks in Pennsylvania issued benefit checks to ILGWU members, the Unemployment Compensation Bureau arbitrarily characterized such benefits as "vacation pay" and applied them to claims for unemployment compensation.

ment compensation. Because unemployment was irregular and sporadic in the industry, many members were penalized merely because they had received a union benefit payment several weeks or even a month before being laid off.

The issue arose in 1953 and affects numerous claims filed by ILGWU members in that year and in 1954. It was fought on the basis of claims made by eight workers who filed application for unemployment compensation between June 27 and July 14, 1953. The bureau denied benefits to each, on the grounds that the claimant was not unemployed.

The bureau's decision was appealed and was later reviewed by a referee, who held that the workers' claims were valid. In turn, the bureau, one of the employers involved and later the State Chamber of Commerce and the Pennsylvania Manufacturers' Assn. appealed to the Board of Review for a reversal of the referee's decision.

The Bureau of Review sustained the arguments made on behalf of the members of the Northeast Department by its counsel, Sidney G. Handler of Harrisburg, who conducted the complex legal struggle for over a year and a half. In doing so, the board made clear that the Northeast Department's agreement does not permit either the employer or the state to declare any period of economic unemployment to be a

"vacation" or the benefits of the Health and Welfare Fund to be considered "vacation pay."

On these points, the board ruled:

"This is not the type of situation where the claimant's collective bargaining union and the employer agreed to a plan whereby for vacation or other purpose. On the contrary (the contract) specifically prohibits such a deduction without the prior, written consent of both parties and no such approval is existent. . . .

"By the terms of the agreement such contributions by the employer to the union trust fund are not to be considered wages. No part of the fund was to be used for vacation payments and in fact the agreement does not contemplate vacation and the evidence clearly establishes, and we so find, that the 'shot down' was due to lack of work. . . .

"Appellate law has shown that the distribution made by the union to the claimant was remuneration paid with respect to the shutdown period and the bureau's regulation No. 186 is inapplicable. . . .

The board concluded that the claimant's unemployment was due solely to the employer's inability to furnish work." Although the board's decision is subject to further appeal to the state, the members are now entitled to receive benefits on claims filed in 1953 and 1954.

Montreal ILGWU Meets the Mayor



Recent civic reception in Montreal brought together Mayor Jean Drapeau (center) and leaders of ILGWU in that city. At extreme left is Albert Eaton, former manager of Cloakmakers Union, now director of Coat Industry Joint Committee. Union officers (left to right) are Sam Liberman, club assistant manager, Vice Pres. Richard Shane and Maurice Manel, dress assistant manager.

INSIDE WASHINGTON

By David Williams

Senate Liberals Woo South, Put Wraps on Rights Battle

WASHINGTON—Have some Senate liberals joined Majority Leader Lyndon (Left) Dorn Johnson in his recurrent position? This question was raised by many thoughtful Capitol observers as the liberal bloc, over the opposition of Senator Lehman, abandoned the effort to revise the obsolete rules of the Senate, break the power of the filibuster, and clear the road to effective civil rights legislation.

All this was done in the second round of "baiting," a case on whose behalf the word "Disloyalty" has been expunged from the political dictionary and Senator Walter George of Georgia made into a hero.

The story begins in July, 1952, on the fourth day of the Democratic convention in Chicago. Until that fateful afternoon, the liberals seemed to have a chance to control the convention and to bar the "true" delegation from taking part in it. Then former Congressman Hanscom of Maryland and Spots John Army of Chicago set off a political landslide in which the liberals were buried, and the Texas oil millionaire was welcomed with cordial apologies for the indignities which had been inflicted upon them.

This trend continued, with leading liberals busy apologizing to each other and anyone who would listen to them for seeking to impose a "loyalty pledge" on southern gentlemen. The fact that it was not a "loyalty pledge" but simply an undertaking to see to it that the Democratic candidate appeared on the Democratic ballot in the Southern states somehow got lost in the shuffle.

The wooing of the South began, with relative rationality, with the leading of leaders such as Senators Sparkman and Mill of Alabama who are liberal on most issues aside from civil rights. But it was not long before the need to juggle favor with the "real" Southerners of the perverted mansions and mist jails was felt, and Senators George and Russell came to the fore.

Thus, for 18 months, Senate Democrats have been defying the laws of political gravity—seeking, as it were, to make water run uphill. All political history indicates (and the Democratic National Committee, with its commentary on Eisenhower's State of the Union message, has shown its grasp of this reality) that a popular party in opposition must turn more liberal.

Though they fancy themselves as "practical" politicians, those who have turned to the right may turn out to be very impractical. Apart from everything else, they have opened the way for the Republicans to exploit in marginal Northern states and Congressional districts the progress in civil rights led by the Eisenhower Administration.

The Democrats were recently given some sound advice by Arthur Kravitz of the New York Times, who stated that "Eisenhower has not adopted so much of the New Deal-Pair Deal's concept of Federal paternalism that all by a wider swing to the 'left' can the Democratic Party preserve its long and successful monopoly of that area."

Now that Eisenhower seems to be moving away from the folly of "unifying" Senate Republicans at the expense of the unity of the country and even of the free world, it would be all the more regrettable for the Senate Democrats to sacrifice their party's militant and liberal tradition for "unity."

Although Senator Lehman can be depended upon, now as in the past, for stalwart leadership of the liberal cause, it is likely that much liberal leadership will have to come from outside the Senate and even outside Washington. The new Democratic Governors in the North have a splendid opportunity to show what liberalism means in practice. The voices of Adlai Stevenson and Harry S. Truman can be powerfully effective in its cause.

3 Southwest Renewals Hike Wages; Push Parays for Gains at 5 Others

Agreements providing new gains for workers of three firms in the Southwest Region have been reached, and improved pacts for five other companies are in the works, reports Vice Pres. Meyer Perlstein, regional director.

A new agreement with the Well-Koller Manufacturing Co. was scheduled to be signed Jan. 11. Subject to ratification by the workers on Jan. 18, the contract renewal would provide wage increases and additional paid holidays. Moreover, employer's contribution of 1 1/4 percent of payroll for health and medical benefits, and a number of other improvements.

Terms of the new pact will cover the underwear firm's workers at plants in Louisiana, Poplar Bluff, Troy and Madison, Mo.; Milwaukee, Ill.; Erieview, Okla., and a shipping room in St. Louis, Mo. Representing the union at the final conference was Vice Pres. Perlstein and staff members Dave Topper and Russell Thompson.

In other agreements reached: Workers at the Vie-Gene Manufacturing Co. of Kansas City, Mo., for five other companies are in the works, reports Vice Pres. Perlstein. Also winning pay hikes were employees of the Lita Manufacturing Co. in Hillsboro, Ill. The union was represented by Staffer Jerry Perlstein.

In a gesture of enlightened management, Louis Kaplan, president of the firm of Oerson-Kaplan Co.,

newed talks with Nadie Spertswear and Jackie Ninkale firm in Dallas, Jewell, Enkay and several other companies in San Antonio, Tex.

Dismissing Returns When a company pays its workers peanuts, it gets peanuts in return. But the production manager of the Gnaps, Kan., plant of the firm established in Kansas City, Mo., can't see the peanuts for the mirage—the mirage being that maximum production can be obtained for the lowest wage.

The union has pressed for an "automatic" wage increase after reducing the company's premise that experienced workers should continue working for very low wages until the firm establishes place rates. It's not only unfair to the worker, says the union, it's not even smart business.

Mill Mills in Shamokin Provides Jobs for Men

Mill Mills is the current name of the firm which agreed to help in Shamokin, Pa., in its efforts to effort—initiated by the ILGWU to bring new job opportunities to the area's unemployed men. They will utilize the knitting, weaving and dyeing skills of about 100 male workers.

FIGHT POUL!



AFL on the AIR

DAILY COAST-TO-COAST

MONDAY THRU FRIDAY EDWARD P. MORGAN

ABC NETWORK

30 PM. EASTERN STANDARD TIME

CONTACT LOCAL MANAGER FOR THE NO. 10 ACTION

U. S. Says Pay-Hour Law Covers non-union workers

In disposing of the case involving the Edward S. Wagner Co. of New York, the Wage and Hour Division of the U. S. Department of Labor recently reaffirmed the principle that homeworkers are subject to the Wage and Hour Law.

The firm, formerly known as Pfeiffer Knitting Mills, produces knit hosiery, caps, socks and other articles of infant wear. For a number of years prior to the enactment of the Wage and Hour Law, it employed homeworkers to produce these items.

After the enactment of the law,

the firm "changed" its method of operation and claimed it was "buying" finished goods from homeworkers who supposedly were operating as independent contractors and not as employees. The practice continued even after the Wage and Hour Division restrict-

ed the employment of homeworkers in the knitted outerwear industry.

Homeworkers working for the Wagner Co. continued to produce garments pursuant to their own designs and specifications, out of yarn which they purchased themselves from independent sources. By evading the Wage and Hour Law, the company not only continued to use homeworkers when the bulk of the industry had ceased to employ them, but also paid the homework-

ers as little as 10, 15 or 20 cents an hour for their work.

At one time over 1,500 homeworkers in some 14 different states were employed by the firm in this way.

In the course of long drawn-out litigation, it was demonstrated that homeworkers were furnishing their own tools and were purchasing all necessary yarn and other materials from sources of supply selected by them. Nevertheless, the Wage and Hour Division—ultimately the

Circuit Court of Appeals—held that the employer-employee relationship did exist between the firm and its homeworkers.

The employer's defense that he was merely buying the finished product proved untenable. An injunction has been issued on this basis to prevent further violation of the minimum wage and overtime provisions of the law, and to require compliance with regard to the registration of homeworkers and keeping of proper records.

WEEKEND IN WASHINGTON

Feb. 18-20

Sponsored by Club 22—Dressmakers' Union

\$26.50 covers all expenses (except food) for weekend tour of nation's capital. ILGWU members and friends leave New York early evening, Friday, Feb. 18. Visit all points of interest, meet Congressmen, see Annapolis.

RESERVATIONS NOW: Local 22 Education Office

218 West 40th St., Room 617

Los Angeles Sportwear Workers Win 35-Hours

Sportswear workers in Los Angeles joined 35-hour-week ranks last week, Vice Pres. Samuel Otto, Pacific Coast director, reports. The workers, members of Local 266, won the hour slash midway in their agreements with three employer groups: California Sportswear and Dress Makers Assn., California Apparel Contractors Assn. and Associated Sportswear Manufacturers of Los Angeles.

In a bulletin released to all union shops, Sportswear Manager John Utine announced that, as of Jan. 1, the former work week of 40 hours will be seven hours a day. The former work week was 37½ hours.

These workers are to receive as much wages for 35 hours as they were paid until now for 37½. Utine workers received their compensating increase when the agreement was renewed in 1953. They gained \$3 which, it was specifically understood, would be applied later to the hourly reduction.

With the reduction of hours in the sportswear trade, practically the entire California membership is on the 35-hour week. Utine negotiations will also cut hours for several hundred more in allied industries.

In his announcement of the new gains, Utine expressed the pride of sportswear workers in taking their place by dressmakers and cloakmakers in the attainment of the 35-hour work week. "It is another great step in the union's fight for more workers' benefits," the sportswear chief noted, and mentioned non-union workers that it was sol-

Boston Pact Gains 35-Hours at Tower

A new contract establishing the 35-hour work week with compensating wage increases and other benefits has been signed with the A. J. Tower Co. in Boston, employing 150 in the manufacture of edibles and rubber clothing. It was announced by Vice Pres. David Olmstead, director of the Northeast Department.

The two-year agreement provides for the shorter hours in two stages: a 37½-hour week effective immediately, with the 35-hour week to start in 1954. Tower employees will also receive additional paid holidays.

by the pressure of union gains that boosted standards in unorganized shops.

Over 160 employees at Bestform Brassiere Co. in Pomona received \$4.38 in back pay last month, as an adjustment for wages not paid when the work week was reduced. With the institution of shorter working hours, some disagreement arose on proper increases to make up for the difference in work hours. Utine and Harry Scott, business agent for Local 461, entered into negotiations with the employer and emerged with back pay checks ranging from \$24 to \$64.

6 ADDITIONAL SHOPS SWELL MIAMI RANKS AS DRIVE ROLLS ON

Six more garment shops in Miami, Fla., have been unionized in the last six weeks, according to General Organizer Abraham Plotkin. These gains have been scored as part of a continuing campaign.

Among the six firms just brought into ILGWU ranks are Miami Embroidery Co. and Tow Embroidery Co. The four others are Toga Wear, Rainbow Procks, Rosette Sportswear and Best Modes. The six shops employ more than 120 workers.

Many special problems have confronted the union team guiding the organizing drive in Miami. "Toga Wear provided one example of a case in which a firm employed persons to the mainland on a learners' basis. Not only did it cheat on rates, it also charged its employees for the privilege of 'learning.' The firm has now learned that it must pay \$400 in back pay.

Samuel L. Macy, manager of the Miami Joint Council, is adding to the campaign, with the assistance of staff members Robert Glanick, Vincent Fernandes and Brailito Martinez.

"Ho Hum..."



Montreal Teen Togs in ILGWU; Firm Joins Jonathan Logan

6 ADDITIONAL SHOPS SWELL MIAMI RANKS AS DRIVE ROLLS ON

Teen Togs of Montreal turned over two new leaves on New Year's Day: The firm finally joined the ranks of unionized shops and, at the same time, became the Canadian division of Jonathan Logan of New York, producing a full line of junior sportswear.

Unionization of Teen Togs will change its name to Jonathan Logan—climates a hard-fought, two-year campaign conducted by the Montreal Organization of the ILGWU, Vice Pres. Bernard Shain reports. The major snag encountered by the union in its organizational efforts heretofore resulted from the bitter-end resistance of one Teen Togs partner, Shain indicated. On learning that a portion of the firm's production was made for Jonathan Logan, with whom the ILGWU is in contractual relations in the United States, the Montreal union requested Vice Pres. Louis Stulberg to assist in efforts to organize the Canadian outfit.

Stulberg immediately contacted Jonathan Logan management in New York. A company representative joined with Stulberg and Canadian ILGWU representatives at a conference in Montreal to discuss the situation.

The Jonathan Logan spokesman later announced he had negotiated purchase of a controlling interest in the Teen Togs firm, and that the holdout partner had severed his connection with the company. He stressed that Teen

Togs, now a full-fledged division of Jonathan Logan, would enter into the same relationship with the ILGWU that prevailed in the States.

At present, the Canadian Jonathan Logan branch employs more than 100 in its shop in Verdun, a Montreal suburb. However, two additional shops already have been obtained, adjacent to the present factory, and plans call for doubling the number of employees and production shortly.

NLRB EXAMINER FINDS DALLAS LETTER FIRM USED UNFAIR TACTICS

A National Labor Relations Board examiner has found the Letter Manufacturing Co. of Dallas, Tex., guilty on two counts of unfair labor practices.

In an intermediate report issued last month, NLRB Examiner S. Asher Jr. found: 1) The firm had discriminated against a member of the ILGWU for her union activities; 2) the company had failed to deal collectively with the ILGWU.

Asher ruled that the firm must cease and desist from committing unfair labor practices in the future and that the employee's action must be reinstated with back pay for lost time.

Houston Ruling

Elsewhere in Texas, no time was being lost as officers and members of Local 214 in Houston prepared to celebrate the 30th anniversary of their local.

The milestone, comprising workers of the Oerren-Kaplan Manufacturing Co., have tentatively planned a large social affair in Houston's Shamrock Hotel on Friday, July 15.

The local recently celebrated the 10th birthday of one of its members, Algie Green, who has worked as an operator at the Oerren-Kaplan plant for 35 years.

The newly established Little health center in Laredo, Tex., has dispensed its first medical service—chest X-rays—for members of Local 306, announced Elizabeth Kimmel of the Southwest Regional staff. Other health services have since followed as far as facilities have permitted.

On another medical front, members of Local 401 in Pacific, Kansas, have voted to contribute \$112.18 to their local hospital.

FIGHT POLIO!
Join March of Dimes!

Bringing Home the Bacon in Birmingham



Southeast Region and Brown-Service Manufacturing Co. in Birmingham, Ala., sign new contract providing for wage increases and other improvements. Inking pact is company president Karl Kneil, as Southeast Director E. T. Kehrer (on his right) looks on. Others in group (seated): Business Agent Irene Dunlap, Florence McDaniel and Willie Cotton; (standing): Joe Garner, Robert Williams, Harry Melvin, V. P. Healy of company, Jack Robinson,

35-Hour Week for 3,200 EOTers Starts in 91 N. J. Tot Dress Shops

More than 3,200 Eastern Out-of-Town Department members employed in 91 New Jersey children's dress shops had their work-week cut to 35 hours on Jan. 1, in accordance with the provisions of agreements with three associations and 24 independent shops. It was announced by Vice Pres. Israel Horowitz, EOT general manager.

The reduction from the 37½-hour week was accompanied by a 7 per cent increase for piece workers, with time workers receiving the same pay for 35 hours as they previously received for 37½.

Under terms of the agreements, all work after the daily regular hours; by both piece and week workers, shall be considered overtime and paid for at the rate of time and one-half.

The major pact setting the first of the year as the deadline for establishment of the shorter work week was concluded previously with the New Jersey Washable Dress Contractors' Assn., representing employees of 40 dress contracting shops in Northern New Jersey. Twenty-four independent employers signed individual EOT agreements with the same provision. Following this pattern were five members of the Children's Dress and Cotton Dress and Sportswear Contractors Assn. and two members of the Industrial Assn. of Juvenile Apparel Manufacturers.

Other pact highlights include an employer-contributed health and welfare fund and participation of the workers in the Eastern Region Retirement Fund. Holidays with pay are provided for both piece and week workers in the collective contracts, which stipulate all benefits and wage

standards prevailing in EOT and industry-wide agreements.

Negotiations for the start of the 35-hour week took place over a year ago with officers of the New Jersey Washable Dress Contractors' Assn. Employer's spokesmen in the numerous conferences which resulted in the agreement, were Samuel Orenblatt, president of the association, Harry Greenberg, secretary, and William Dubin, counsel. Heading the union's bargaining team was General Manager Horowitz, assisted by Sadie Reibel, manager of Local 220 and 251.

Benefits of this settlement have been extended also to members of EOT "New Jersey Locals 166, 222 and 251, managed by Herman Simon; Local 162, managed by Morris Reibel; Locals 161 and 211, man-

aged by Peter Delisano; and Locals 150 and 157, managed by Simon Maurstad.

Philly Cloak Pacts Net Pay Increases

A rate of \$5 per week for sample and duplicate makers and an increase of 1 per cent in employees' contribution to the retirement fund highlight gains in the new three-year collective contract signed between the Philadelphia Cloak Joint Board and the city's cloak employers, Manager Harry Dordick reports. Agreement was reached on renewal terms after numerous negotiating sessions, according to Dordick. He also disclosed that Philadelphia cloakmakers have been seriously hit by unemployment; three firms employing 170 workers recently shut down. The union is making every effort to place these workers in other shops, he indicated.

Governor Cuts Ribbon to Open Chicago's Union Health Center

Chicago raised a toast to the health of the ILGWU Jan. 8, and the gesture couldn't have been more appropriate. The union linked its compliance by opening the doors to its newest institution dedicated to the prevention of illness — Chicago's Union Health Center, the first of its kind in the nation's second city.

Heading a list of dignitaries participating in the unveiling celebration was Governor William G. Strickland, who cut the ribbon that ushered in new era of medical security for Chicago garment workers.

Other political figures who toured the center included Roy P. Cummins, director of Illinois State Department of Labor, and Mayor Martin R. Kennedy. In addition to employer representative, William A. Lee, president of the Chicago Federation of Labor, led a delegation of local labor leaders, including officers of all ILG Chicago locals. Among guests from the medical field was Dr. Leo Price, director of New York's Union Health Center, who was one of the advisers for the Chicago project.

Pres. David Dubinsky, unable to attend the ceremonies, sent the following line to Vice Pres. Morris Blaine, Midwest regional director:

"Heartfelt congratulations on the final achievement of this significant gain in your welfare program. The Chicago Union Health

IN THE MARKET

By Leon Simon

Buyer Wields Fashion Power But Consumer Has Last Say

The buyer of women's clothes is the magnet in the compass of the garment industry and its workers. A nod, a smile, a gleam of approval in the eye of a buyer will set the wheels of sewing machines whirling; will determine the direction in which a course of seasonal activity is hunched.

Coming from all over the nation, buyers make periodic journeys to New York City — the world's fashion capital. Their educated guesses cast them in a crucial role that leaves its imprint on the industry and on fashion itself. The December 1954



issue of Industrial Bulletin, monthly news magazine of the New York State Department of Labor, presents the pattern of garment production set by buyers.

Following are some noteworthy excerpts:

How does the out-of-town buyer assemble her line? Among the hundreds of numbers she views on parade and in the showrooms of individual manufacturers, how does she make her selection? The "right" of her line will depend, in the first place, on the financial resources of the retail establishment she represents. If the past summer season was successful, she will work on a generous fall budget, if it was poor or only moderately good, she will have less money to spend on initial purchases.

She will also have a detailed knowledge of the store's past operations, its inventory and sales records, broken down according to color, size and style, to serve as a guide in her selection and ordering of new goods.

Many of the new styles shown may excite her personal admiration, but her own taste is not the sole guide she uses in picking her merchandise. She must choose what her clients will buy.

Many a buyer has served an apprenticeship as a salesperson, and hence has a first-hand knowledge of customers' activities, needs and tastes. She can interpret the "current mood" in terms of the local community. Thus, she selects few numbers which are revolutionary in style if she is buying for a conservative clientele, or she spices her line with items which emphasize the most dramatic style developments, if she has a more venturesome buying public.

The section of the country from which a buyer comes will influence her choice of fabrics. If her clients must brave the key blasts of a rugged winter, she will select heavier tweeds and woollens for outdoor wear; if she comes from an area where moderate temperatures prevail, she will choose lighter-weight materials. The weather, as everybody knows, affects apparel sales drastically.

A recent trade article carried the interesting suggestion that retailers do well to place less confidence in their records of past performance in a given season and give more weight, in their buying and promotions, to the long-range weather forecast, which are said to be 75 per cent accurate. They might thus avoid overstocked inventories caused by unreasonable weather. Possibly the time will come when retailers will "correlate their data on performance with weather" and the buyer becomes as weather-wise as she is style- and customer-conscious.

By early August, the goods selected in New York by out-of-town buyers are on display in retail stores throughout the land, and the feminine population goes window-shopping. The clothes displayed — the buyer's choice — make their bid for customer approval, and it is largely on the wisdom of that choice that sales will depend. For, in the final analysis, it is the consumer who has the last word in endorsing or rejecting the season's style trends.

New Year's in a New York Undie Shop



Members' children pay a visit to their parents in prelude to New Year's shop party at S. S. Undies firm in New York. Local 42 Business Agent Fennie Shapiro helps keep kids entertained while mothers finish day's work.

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FIGHT POLIO!

Join

MARCH OF DIMES

Italian American Labor Acclaims Matthew Woll



"Star of Italian Solidarity, First Class" is presented to Matthew Woll, first vice president of American Federation of Labor, by Dr. Alberto Tarascio, Italian Ambassador to U. S. Woll was honored on 75th birthday by Italian American Labor Council, on occasion of IALC annual conference. Looking on are Luigi Antonini, ILGWU first vice president and head of IALC, Robert D. Murphy, Deputy Undersecretary of State, AFL. Pres. George Meany.

"If we are to win our battle against the forces of despotism and human degradation rallied behind the flag of Communist imperialism, we must face the present critical age with a determination to prepare for everything."

So spoke Matthew Woll, first vice president of the American Federation of Labor, at a luncheon at the Commodore Hotel Jan. 8 given by the Italian American Labor Council in honor of his 75th birthday. Joining in the tribute were the Department of State and the Republic of Italy.

Robert D. Murphy, Deputy Under Secretary of State, hailed Woll's contribution to American and international labor and told the more than 1,200 trade unionists and notable guests assembled:

"It is hard to place too much stress on the importance of an important and alert trade union movement in the conduct of our foreign policy. For, no matter how well our foreign policy may be, its success is dependent on the measure on our internal strength."

"American labor," Murphy continued, "is a vital component of our strength and provides an indispensable source of vigor and support which enables our government to conduct its relations with other people to the best advantage of our people."

In recognition of Woll's outstanding support of Italian democracy, through his role as chairman of the AFL's International Labor Relations and Free Trade Union Committee, Dr. Alberto Tarascio, retired Italian Ambassador, presented him with the Star of Solidarity, Italy's highest decoration.

Other distinguished personages who joined in lauding Woll included ILGWU Pres. David Dubinsky, AFL Pres. George Meany, Jay Lovestone, executive secretary of the AFL Free Trade Union Committee, and Luigi Antonini, IALC head and first vice president of the ILGWU, who chaired the luncheon.

Dubinsky described Woll as the symbol of everything decent, liberal and progressive in the American trade union movement and recalled that Woll was always a trustworthy friend of the ILGWU, especially in the dark days of the Thirties.

Said Meany: "Millions of workers throughout the world, many of whom may never have heard of Woll, owe him a tremendous debt of gratitude for his reaching efforts in their behalf. As long as men like Woll are on the scene, the cause of freedom throughout the world is safe."

Lovestone: "Woll sometimes has been described as a 'conservative.' But if so, he reflects the Franklin D. Roosevelt brand of conservatism; he is not afraid to stand up to the right to fight uncompromisingly for what is right, even if the right must be waged alone at times."

Other messages of congratulations

Negotiations Continue On N.Y. Dress Renewal

Negotiations for the renewal of the collective agreements in the New York dress industry were resumed Jan. 13. Conference are being held at frequent intervals as current contracts head for the Jan. 21 expiration date. The negotiation committee of the New York Dress Joint Board is headed by its general manager, Vice Pres. Julius Hochman.

At the meeting on Dec. 13, the union's demands were countered by demands presented by employers' groups, requesting revision of piece rate settlement techniques and reduction of employer contributions to health and welfare funds.

ORDER MICKEY TOGS TO REINSTATE FOUR, END ANTI-ILG ACTS

Anti-union activities of Mickey Togs in Toms River, N. J., were abruptly halted last morning when the newly elected National Labor Relations Board ruling ordering it to stop interfering with union activities and to reinstate four employees, reported.

On the basis of evidence presented by the union, the NLRB had issued a preliminary order prohibiting the company from blocking union efforts to organize. Before a formal hearing could be held, the company asked for a settlement, recognizing the evidence documentation the union could offer at such a session.

The agreement prevents the employer from discouraging membership in the ILGWU, questioning employees about union affiliation, and interfering with the union's organizational efforts.

The company was ordered also to reinstate four employees discharged for union activity, with full back pay. The workers involved are Dorothy Grank, Rose Ann, Mary Haddock and Alma Brown. Notices will be posted in the plant announcing all these decisions and the action becomes part of a federal court decree, so that future violations will be open to contempt of court proceedings.

Organizational activities at Mickey Togs, a children's dress shop, were conducted by Long Branch Local 85 under Manager Herman Birnbaum. Extensive worker contacts by Organizer Emanuel Leventhal were countered by the company in a campaign of coercion, intimidation and finally, outright firing of workers.

With this last action, the union file charges and was upheld by the NLRB.

Nagler Foresees Cloak Spring Season Pickup

Though the New York cloak industry continues to suffer from generally depressed conditions, the end of the fall season and the start of spring production provide some cause for optimism.

This seemed evident from the survey of economic conditions of the industry which highlighted the annual report presented by Vice Pres. Adolph Nagler, general manager of the New York Cloak Joint Board, at its meeting on Jan. 13.

In his report, Nagler also reviewed the present status of cloak welfare funds, organizational progress, contract renewal, progress of action work to New York, the Israel First Memorial Fund, supervision of firm, cloak activity in the last election campaign, and recent trends in the labor movement.

In his discussion of industry conditions, the cloak chief indicated that reports on the spring season thus far "show that the industry has been a modest improvement of up to 10 per cent in initial order and sell bookings in the New York market, with a substantial increase being registered in many instances."

"There is a general belief that suits have an opportunity to make a strong comeback this season," Nagler declared. "Although most early interest, as usual, is for the better quality goods, it is expected to spread to all price lines as the season gets fully underway."

The vice president laid the reason in the cloak industry to four separate causes: the unwillingness of many manufacturers to gamble on a pickup in business, the clinging buying habits of the American consumer, the continued high numbers of cloakmakers available for work in the light of the high sales and the general economic recession.

"An important element which we must deal with today, which complicates our dealings with employers, is personified by the firm owner, who has been cutting back money during the past few years," Nagler noted. "He is reluctant to gamble on a possible pickup in the industry. He is complacent and cautious. Dealing with such people requires all of our ingenuity, aggressiveness and leadership."

The manager also pointed out significant success on the union's part in keeping many firms operating, "but we cannot to all cases prevent firms from going out of business. I am confident, however, of a change which will allow us to regain some of our losses."

Altered patterns of buying among consumers take two forms, Nagler indicated. The first has caused a sharp drop in the demand for goods from clothing to durable goods like homes, cars, washing machines, etc. At the same time, the growth of suburban communities and the loss of millions of living has boosted casual wear and cut into cloak production.

Simple statistics told the tale, the cloak chief said. "When in 1945 the American people spent less than 7 per cent of their money on durable goods, they are now spending over 13 per cent. Meanwhile, clothing expenditures have dropped from their 'pre-war' level of 18 per cent and war-time peak of 22 per cent to a low of 8 per cent at present." The actual decrease in the cloak market is nearer 25 per cent. And every "per cent," Nagler reminded cloak officers, "is equal today to over \$3 million."

The impact of informal living in the cloak industry has been sharp and substantial, the general manager declared. It has furthermore affected both middle-income and upper-income spending.

Young lower-middle class families have been affected in two ways. They are unable to spend as heavily as they were formerly, but are still faced by new financial obligations like home mortgage payments, installment purchases, etc. The result is that the choice of clothing has shifted from

tailored, dressy garments to more casual everyday wear.

"But even among the upper-middle class families, who have always provided a major portion of the purchasing power for better clothes, you find a style trend to more casual daily wearing apparel, especially those of the country-life living of the suburban communities in contrast to formal city life."

Another important fact outlined by Nagler is that not only has the percentage of income spent on coats and suits gone down, "but the actual dollar amount of the cloak industry has been less than in 1945, from over \$1 billion in 1948 to \$651 million in 1953. This despite the continued growth in population and the diminution in the value of the dollar."

"Moreover, the number of workers in our industry grew during the good years in which production was expanding, and so we now have a large family among which the smaller amount must be shared."

In addition to the long-range problems posed by changing buying habits, the cloak industry was hurt during the last few months of 1953 and all of 1954 by the general economic recession through which the nation has been passing," Nagler pointed out. "This has hit the coat and suit industry hardest in the cloak lines of merchandise, for when workers, whose families are the buyers of these items, are either out of work or their clothes are forced to cut their clothing purchases."

The most important adverse effect of the drop in business, of course, has been the cut in available and in earnings, Nagler emphasized. Underemployment has been a problem, but the unemployment has been so scarce. "As a matter of fact, at the height of the season, it is sometimes difficult to find men to operate the better lines of work." Hardest hit, undoubtedly, have been the finishers, "for the tendency to simplify production has eliminated much handwork from coats and suits."

The general manager noted that the Hughes-Breen Amendment to the state unemployment insurance laws continue to harass cloakmakers seeking unemployment pay. He also pointed out that the law has placed unemployed cloakmakers in shops where there are openings.

The picture is not without its encouraging features, Nagler continued. "The consensus among leading economists is that 1955 will see an improvement in the nation's economic picture. Personal income and savings remain high and consumers cannot be expected to continually postpone garment purchases."

"As the weight of the financial obligations assumed by American consumers lessens, they should begin, once more, to focus greater attention on the care of proper dress," he concluded.

Wilkins Labor Spokesman At Philly T-H Symposium

Ross Wilkins, assistant manager of the Philadelphia Joint Council, Locals 79 and 246, was the labor spokesman on the panel of a symposium on proposed amendments to the Taft-Hartley Act, Manager Louis Blum reported. The forum, held Jan. 4, was sponsored by the Temple University School of Law.

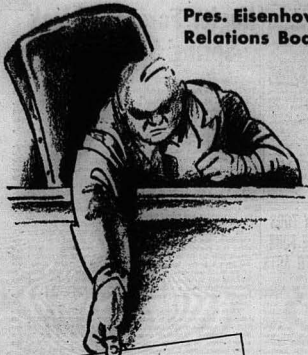
FIGHT POLIO! Join March of Dimes]

You're in the Union Now!



New members of Locals 166-222 are initiated at meeting in Newark, N. J. New educational policy adopted by Eastern Out-of-Town Department calls for initiation of members at executive board meetings, to give fledgling ILGers first-hand view of union in operation.

Pres. Eisenhower's Majority on National Labor Relations Board Threatens a Traditional Right



Early in 1952, the ILGWU launched a drive to organize a garment shop in Pascagoula, Mississippi. On the morning of Apr. 22, some 23 workers and their union organizer asked for a conference with the firm. They were fired at once.

Picketing began but was halted after a few days for a period of three weeks by a court injunction. The case went to the National Labor Relations Board.

The Trial Examiner for the NLRB, on the basis of a carefully detailed record, concluded that the firm had committed unfair labor practices and recommended that the fired workers be reinstated with back pay. Most of the workers have meanwhile been rehired by the firm. The obligation to pay for lost wages remains.

The National Labor Relations Board reviewed the case. It found no error in the Trial Examiner's rulings. But it concluded, in a decision issued Dec. 14, 1954, that because of violence at the time of the picketing all strikers are to be denied the board's protection. It refused to order them reinstated with back pay.

It based this decision on alleged strike violence. The Trial Examiner's report runs to about 2,500 lines. Only 52 of these, or one-half of 1 per cent of his report, deals with conspiracy and violence.

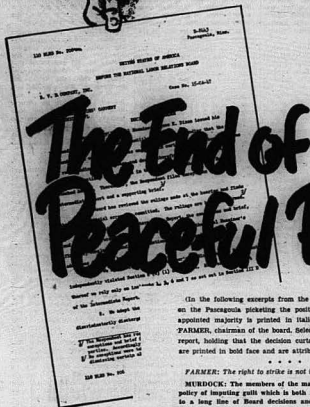
In this part of his report the Trial Examiner held:

"The Chancery Court found that the picketing employees had engaged in a conspiracy to commit violence. . . . With all deference to the court's decision, I find insufficient evidence in the record before me to establish a conspiracy. The pickets had numerous sympathizers from outside the plant and from other unions and received counsel and aid from them. Notwithstanding the fact that many of the pickets had husbands and relatives among these sympathizers, the necessary concomitants of a conspiracy have not been shown."

Looking for a grappling-book with which to pull down another traditional right of organized labor, the NLRB's Eisenhower majority has now ripped these references out of context, magnified them out of all true proportion, and made them the excuse for denying reinstatement with back pay to all of the strikers.

On this page is reprinted portions of the majority and the minority parts of the decision in this historic case. The decision is being taken to the courts by the ILGWU.

If the board's rule stands, it will be possible to punish peaceful pickets for violence which they did not commit. As the dissenting opinion in the case points out, the action by which the pickets could put themselves back into good graces with the business-minded majority of the NLRB is not clearly described and in any case cannot be taken.



(In the following excerpts from the historic NLRB decision on the Pascagoula picketing the position of the Eisenhower-appointed majority is printed in italics and is attributed to FARMER, chairman of the board. Selections from the minority report, holding that the decision curtails the right to picket, are printed in bold face and are attributed to MURDOCK.)

FARMER: The right to strike is not impaired by our decision.

MURDOCK: The members of the majority here adopt a new policy of imputing guilt which is both inequitable and contrary to a long line of Board decisions and court rulings. Such a punitive measure is unequalled for by the practicalities of the case and constitutes an unwarranted impairment of the right to strike.

The strike in this case was lawful in its nature and plan, caused and prolonged by the unfair labor practices of the Respondent. During the course of the strike, however, certain acts of violence were committed, chiefly by unidentified persons, and some lesser misconduct occurred, for the most part not on the picket line. The majority concludes that these acts require a withholding of the Board's customary reinstatement and back pay order from ALL employees who picketed during the strike whether or not the individual strikers personally engaged in the misconduct.

FARMER: The Governor of the State of Mississippi sent the National Guard to keep order during the strike. The Chancery Court of Jackson County, Mississippi, finding that an emergency existed, issued a temporary injunction on April 24, 1952, restraining the union organizer, the dischargers and others from illegal picketing, from the use of force, threats, coercion, intimidation or picketing to prevent employees from working, or making threats. After a subsequent full State court hearing which extended over several days, the court made the injunction "final

and perpetual." However, even after the issuance of the permanent injunction the violence continued.

MURDOCK: The NLRB Trial Examiner found that all employees involved credibly denied any participation in violence and misconduct connected with the strike. One picket testified that the pickets had been instructed by the union organizer to keep non-strikers and trucks out if they could by talking to them but not by force. The local sheriff, whose testimony in this proceeding the Trial Examiner credited, testified in the State injunction proceedings that he knew of no violence by the pickets on April 22 and that he did not make any arrests on the picket line, and that after the injunction was served, everything was peaceable and normal as far as he knew.

Finally, in retaining a proper perspective of the misconduct presented by the record and evaluating the alleged threats made by pickets, we must not overlook the fact that the strikers were female employees, led by a female organizer. They maintained a picket line for four months, from April to August, and during that time no non-striker was stopped from crossing the picket line and relatively few "incidents" even suggestive of threats occurred on the picket line. Moreover, Respondent itself has condemned the strikers' connection with the conduct it now complains of by recalling unsympathetically all the strikers under the settlement arrangement; and it obviously did not consider the strikers unemployable because of the misconduct which occurred during the strike. We colleagues in the majority fail to explain why the well-established doctrine of condonation is not applicable to this case.

FARMER: We cannot blind ourselves to the widespread physical violence, destruction of property, intimidation and threats which accompanied the strike. To do so would be to put a premium upon force and violence in the conduct of strikes.

MURDOCK: We cannot permit our aversion to violence to



In the eyes of the NLRB majority there were obvious reasons for calling out the National Guard to protect the company plant against picket violence. Any worker who can't see those reasons in this picture of the Pascagoula picketing taken during strike which shows the Guard armed to the teeth ready to deal with the solitary massed picket, obviously doesn't see eye-to-eye with the business-minded members of the NLRB.

cause us to lose sight of other significant aspects of the case or to color our appraisal of the evidence of misconduct presented in the record. The majority's word picture is a skillfully blended mosaic. It combines "facts" of the most serious misconduct which was committed by unidentified persons (without so labeling it), misconduct committed by outsiders not in the presence of strikers, misconduct based on testimony and hearsay testimony of a witness not generally credited by the Trial Examiner, and gratuitous conjectures of the Trial Examiner, along with a few instances of lesser misconduct on the part of a few identified pickets or strikers. The resulting picture is an indeliberate blur of violence.

This arouses the desired emotional response, but is of little help in a dispassionate effort to determine under established principles which, if any, of the discharged employees and strikers have so misconducted themselves as to justify denial of the normal remedy for discrimination against them of reinstatement and back pay. Under existing authority the occurrence of violence during a strike does not in itself warrant denial of the usual remedy to individual strikers who are not shown by the evidence to have engaged in violence.

FARMER: The strikers cannot evade the duty they had to keep the strike activities within lawful bounds by protesting obnoxiousness to the widespread violence, all committed in furtherance of the strike. Much of it was by identified or unidentified strikers or pickets or by outsiders who came to the aid of the strikers either on the express invitation or with the tacit approval of the union. Whether or not the strikers expressly authorized such conduct, it remains true that they invited and accepted the benefit of it and took no steps to discourage or repudiate it. The fair inference is that at least those strikers who continued to picket during the violent strike welcomed, approved and ratified such conduct.

MURDOCK: Despite the authority that misconduct cannot be imputed to individual strikers who did not participate in or actually ratify such conduct, the majority attempts to fix responsibility for all the misconduct on all strikers who picketed on the theory that by continuing to picket after the misconduct occurred, the strikers "approved" and "ratified" the misconduct. Application of such a distorted view of ratification as that the majority here uses could result in the ridiculous situation of a strikebreaker hired by an employer being found an agent of individual strikers.

FARMER: Strikers have no right to protection when they, at the very least, welcomed the aid of criminal elements who took over their strike and desecrated it with violence and terrorism. We are forced to conclude that those strikers who continued to picket not only approved and ratified the violence but actually invited it. We are compelled to this conclusion because there is no evidence in the record that the strikers took any action at all—by admonishment, denunciation or public pronouncement—in discouraging the commission of violence or to disassociate themselves from it. We do not suggest that the strikers could have purged themselves only by abandoning their picketing. There were other avenues open to them by which they could have disavowed the misconduct. They chose none of them. We feel sure that the requirement that strikers keep their strike within legal bounds abridges their right to strike.

MURDOCK: The lack of precedent for the majority's theory that innocent individuals who participate in a lawful strike are responsible for the misconduct of other individuals during the strike, and the technical defects of the majority's theory of agency, negate the majority's position that individual strikers who did not engage in misconduct are required to take action to disavow the misconduct of others or be held to have ratified the conduct.

Compare the Board's refusal on even stronger facts to imply an agency relationship to find employers responsible for the anti-union conduct of a citizens' committee or an employer's committee.

It is difficult to see as a practical matter what effective action individual strikers could have taken to stop or repudiate the misconduct as the majority says they should have done. How could these women employees have stopped unknown persons who bombed an electric substation or put some bullet holes in plant windows at night? And the individual strikers had no authority over the other wrongdoers so as to control their acts.

The majority does not go so far as to assume such authority and the record would not support such an assumption. The majority opinion, however, in concluding that strikers who continued to picket approved and "invited" violence, suggests that the strikers could have disavowed the misconduct by abandoning their picketing. My majority colleagues thereby impose upon innocent strikers confronted with any signs of misconduct, even that of unknown persons, the choice of abandoning their right to reinstatement in their jobs or abandoning their right to strike and peacefully picket in support of their strike.

The majority adds that abandonment of picketing was not the only way the strikers could have disavowed the violence—they could have done so by "disassociation, denunciation or public pronouncement," about which, the majority says, the strikers are deemed to have "actually invited" the violence.

From the practical standpoint this gets more and more unrealistic. How does one "disassociate" unknown wrongdoers? What form must "disassociation" take? Are individual statements adequate or is a formal resolution necessary? Does "public pronouncement" mean the strikers must buy a full page ad in the newspaper?

Moreover, let us not forget that the strikers here were not formally organized into an established union. They were an amorphous group of female employees in the early stages of exercising their right to self-organization, led by a female organizer for the union, resisting their employer's unfair labor practices. From the practical standpoint one could not expect what the majority now requires: from the legal standpoint, shifting the burden to all the strikers of policing the lawless conduct of unknown individuals as the majority here does, is inconsistent with existing judicial authority.

FARMER: We do not believe that in these circumstances it would effectuate the policies of the Act to order reinstatement and back pay to such strikers.

MURDOCK: Under the majority's decision employers now strike under the peril of losing their jobs because of the uncontrollable action of hot heads or troublemakers.

The turbulence and disorder which not infrequently accompany strikes was known to Congress when it originally enacted the provision preserving the right to strike and when it re-enacted the provision in 1947 in the light of existing labor conditions. And the failure to order reinstatement and back pay to innocent strikers because of misconduct for which they are not responsible tends to arouse feelings of injustice among employees which serve as new cause for unrest and discord.

Furthermore, the policy of removing all strikers from the protection of the Act when any significant misconduct occurs during a strike invites provocative conduct by unprincipled employers, unscrupulous competing labor organizations, and inopportune anti-union outsiders, mercenaries or others desirous of stimulating discord and destroying the democratic process of collective bargaining. The role of the agent provocateur is too well established in our industrial history to be ignored, being recognized by the Board, the courts, and Congressional committee.

EISENHOWER MAJORITY



GUY FARMER, NLRB chairman, left hand is join law firm representing Big Business interests in Washington and West Virginia. Reappointed to the board, as chairman, by Eisenhower in 1953.



ALBERT C. REESON, manager of Food Machinery Chemical Corp. of California, whose appointment to fill unexpired portion of a term in 1954 touched off bitter confirmation battle in Senate. His term expires Dec. 1954.



PHILIP RAY RODGERS was chief clerk of Senate Labor Committee in Republican-controlled 84th Congress, appointed by Eisenhower in 1953.

THE MINORITY



ABE MURDOCK, former New Deal Senator from Utah (1940-46), appointed to the board by Truman in 1947.



IVAR H. PETERSON was executive assistant to Senator Wayne Morse until his resignation to the board by Truman in 1952.

Disabled Workers Who Leave Trade May Retain Limited Union Benefits

The ILOWU General Executive Board last month cleared the way for disabled members of the union to continue to receive union benefits for stipulated periods. It issued a rule designed to deal with a type of "hardship" case which arises from the fact that Article 8, Section 17 of the ILOWU Constitution at present makes no allowance for withdrawal from membership due to disability.

The problem with which the new rule deals is the result of the fact that many members who leave the trade wish to retain their ILOWU membership because of union benefits. The ILOWU Constitution requires a member who leaves the trade to withdraw from membership. Under the new rule, garment workers who have been members of the ILOWU continuously for five or more years but for less than 20 years may continue to pay dues and remain members for two years after leaving the trade due to disability.

Those with 20 or more years of continuous membership can continue to pay dues and retain membership for an indefinite time, with stipulated benefits.

The new rule is effective as of Jan. 1, 1953, according to the official records forwarded to ILOWU officers by Executive Secretary Frederick P. Umhey.

Local unions have found it difficult to apply this provision because they must prove that a member has actually left the industry. To do this fairly, they have had to differentiate between members who leave the industry by choice and with no plan to return on the one hand, and on the other, those who are out of employment because of

BENEFIT RIGHTS FOR ILOWU MEMBERS WHO CANNOT REMAIN IN THE INDUSTRY BECAUSE DISABLED, BUT WHO WISH TO RETAIN MEMBERSHIP.

	CLASS I Those with continuous membership of five or more, but less than twenty years	CLASS II Those with membership of twenty continuous years or more
First Year	Pays dues Gets all benefits (EXCEPT vacation, which depends on local union rules)	Pays dues Gets all benefits (EXCEPT vacation, which depends on local union rules)
Second Year	Pays dues Gets all benefits EXCEPT vacation	Pays dues Gets all benefits EXCEPT vacation
End of second year	Withdraws from membership, death benefit fund coverage ends	Continues membership
Third Year	Gets Health Center service ONLY	Pays dues Gets Health Center service and death benefit coverage ONLY
Fourth Year and subsequent years	End of all benefits	Pays dues Gets Health Center service and death benefit coverage ONLY

lack of work or illness but still considered themselves attached to the trade.

This ruling is not concerned with the member who drops out of the industry for other reasons or who is temporarily out of the industry because of illness. It is designed to benefit only those who, before reaching retirement age, are no longer able to work in the industry because they have become disabled. A systematic procedure to be followed in determining whether

any member who applies is qualified to come under this ruling. Any member desiring to come under this ruling must apply to his local union, and must present proof satisfactory to the local union of his disability and inability to work. The local union must then pass upon the application and must indicate on the ledger card and other membership records the date of approval. The date is important because the periods for the various benefits begin from the date of approval.

Johnston City Firm in Illinois Coughs Up \$3,750 Back Pay

After persisting for months with the argument that it is not obligated to pay employees more than the minimum wage scale, the Johnston City Manufacturing Co. of Johnston City, Ill., finally has sent the union \$3,750 covering back pay owed piece workers.

The controversy was brought to a climax after the union invoked arbitration and the commission in turn, renewed efforts to negotiate.

Back pay and benefits owed the union were also won from two other firms according to F. W. M. Perlestein, Southwest regional director.

Shawnee Manufacturing Co. of Paola, Kans., agreed to pay seven workers Thanksgiving holiday pay after learning that the union was about to invoke the arbitration provision of the agreement. Employees on the receiving end are Agnes Buchanan, Gladys Willard, Frankie Vance, La. Windler, Melba Corp. Elmer Whittey and Corinne Williams.

Stated to receive a full half-day's pay previous denied them are several workers of the Fremont, Neb., plant of the Meade O'Day Corp. The union agreement provides that, in slow periods, workers shall be paid not less than one-half day's work when called in during overtime pay workers of the firm's Hastings, Neb., plant is also forthcoming.

Meanwhile, the union has requested the Daryl Jones Co. to pay \$3,650 to the St. Louis health and retirement funds. According to accountants' study of the payroll, the firm has failed to meet its payments to the funds.

At the St. James, Mo., plant of the Daryl firm, the union has requested a wage increase for workers.

PLASTIC LOCAL WINS GIBRALTAR CO. IN J.C. AFTER 3-WEEK DRIVE

An intensive three-week campaign added almost 150 workers to ILOWU ranks last month as Plastic and Mervell Workers in J.C. emerged victorious from a National Labor Relations Board election at Gibraltar Manufacturing Co., Jersey City, N. J.

According to Manager Martin Ballou, 63 workers of the 138 who voted in the election cast their ballots for the ILOWU. The achievement is doubly striking in view of the frantic anti-ILOWU efforts of plant management, supervisors and two other unions.

To bolster its campaign, Local 123 utilized frequent meetings of the workers and wide distribution of literature. It became necessary, Peiman noted, to meet as often as every other night, so that the phony charges constantly thrown up by the opponents might be instantly refuted.

Local 123's victory in the election was greeted enthusiastically by Gibraltar employees, and negotiations on a contract began immediately. Union demands include wage increase, paid holidays, health coverage and annual workers' benefit, usually used to defray costs of vacation.

N.Y. Members Must Get 1955 Medical Envelopes

New York ILOWU members will need a 1955 medical service envelope in order to obtain medical benefits at the Union Health Center after Dec. 31, 1954. The 1955 envelopes can be obtained at local union offices now.

These envelopes will be good for the entire year of 1955, except for members of Locals 20, 82, 81, 98, 105, 112 and 154. Envelopes for members of these seven locals will be good only until June 30, 1955 and they will have to exchange them at that time to get new ones effective for the July 1-Dec. 31 period.

Allentown Medics Okay Health Unit

Union leaders and medical spokesmen in Allentown, Pa., signed an agreement last month formally sanctioning the operation of the union's diagnostic health center in that city.

The agreement came a long series of union-doctor conferences, a medical society appointment to recommend to improve health care for its members in the area. According to Manager Ben Orrent, the center will be maintained for diagnostic or examination purposes only and will work closely with local doctors in the matter of follow-up treatment.

The center has operated for six years, and its service to the membership during that time prompted a medical society appointment to recommend to improve health care for its members in the area. According to Manager Ben Orrent, the center will be maintained for diagnostic or examination purposes only and will work closely with local doctors in the matter of follow-up treatment.

Report of the Lady from Springfield



Marion Palmisano, recording secretary of Local 226, Springfield, Mass., delivers her local's report at recent annual meeting of Northern New England and Western Massachusetts District Council. Confab summarized industrial situation, moved for quickened organization activity. In group are Jacqueline Thornton, Laure Miller, Fortunato Parenti.

HOW TO BUY

by Sidney Margulies

Even Low-Income Taxpayers Can Make Use of Deductions

A host of lawyers and accountants are working overtime now to find loopholes in the new tax code for the wealthy, and they are finding them. So let's try to find at least a few for the non-wealthy—the moderate-income families who, contrary to modern legend, pay the largest part of the government's income-tax revenue (46 per cent compared to the 39 per cent supplied by tax-payers with earnings over \$10,000).

First of all, let's put it on the public record that the new tax law is even worse for moderate-income people than was realized from the early publicity about its "benefits." At least three jobs have appeared in the new rules that will deprive moderate-income families of much of the tax-savings that had been advertised as a special benefit to them.

The medical deduction actually has not been increased as much as was publicized. The new tax law requires medical bills, and drug and hospital bills to be accounted for separately. Where formerly, both were deductible if they amounted together to more than 5 per cent of income, now medical bills are deductible if they amount, alone, to more than 3 per cent of income, and drug and medicine bills are deductible if they amount, alone, to more than 1 per cent of income. Thus, Congress with one hand handed tax-payers a 3 per cent saving, and with the other hand took back 1 per cent.

The new deduction for child-care may be of some help to widows and widowers, but is of little value to the working wife for whom it was claimed to be a great help. This rule allows working women, widowers and divorced people to deduct up to \$400 for the care of children under 12 (or older if physically or mentally incapable), but for a wife even this limited benefit is reduced by the amount of her husband's and her joint income over \$4,500. If their joint income is \$4,500, the most one can deduct for child-care expense to permit her to go out to work is \$100. If their joint income is \$4,500, she can take no deduction at all.

There are several legal tax savings in the new law which moderate-income people should be alert to use to keep down their tax bills. One is the new sick pay rule. This permits you to exclude from taxable income any sick pay received from a wage continuation plan maintained by your employer. Many tax experts feel that any regular pay received while ill comes under this provision so long as the employer has a uniform policy of continuing the wages of most workers when ill. (Up to \$100 a week of sick pay is exempt, but the first week's sick pay is taxable unless illness is due to injury, or you are hospitalized at least one day.) A union of government employees has already secured an early victory by getting at least an official confirmation from government officials that government sick-leave pay is thus tax-exempt.

If you do qualify for the child-care deduction despite its limitations, note that you can pay the money to any relative (like your mother) or friend for taking care of the child while you work. But you can't deduct for such child-care payments made to a close relative if you also claim the relative as an exemption on your return.

A loophole has also been discovered in the new dividend credit, but it is more useful to wealthier taxpayers. They can now exclude from taxable income up to \$50 of any dividends received from stocks or mutual-fund shares. If husband and wife each have \$40 or more of dividends, or the shares are registered in both names, \$100 can be excluded. But legal experts have already discovered ways one family can get several dividend credits, since the credit can be claimed not only for a wife but for each child for whom shares are held in trust.



Carlisle Free-Speech Victory Cheers Ohio-Kentucky Meet

News that the right to hold a union meeting at the court house in Carlisle, Ky., was won by the ILOWU was cheered at the staff conference of the Ohio-Kentucky Region held in Cleveland on Jan. 8, Vice Pres. Nicholas Kirtzman, regional director, reports.

William Kaufman, manager of the Kentucky organization, and Clara Kaufman, ILOWU organizer in the state, fresh from the Carlisle victory, reported on the latest developments in the union's campaign to organize workers of the Griffin Manufacturing Co. They reported on the charges which had taken place in the community since the start of the drive in September, from a feeling of open hostility to one in which the right of the union to use public facilities was recognized.

The Ohio-Kentucky staff conference also decided to intensify efforts among unorganized garment workers in both states, Kirtzman related. The joint boards in both Cleveland and Cincinnati have hired organizers to conduct campaigns among non-union shops in these cities, to supplement the work of Organizer Henry Glasse throughout Ohio, he reported.

In the discussion of political action, in light of the very close defeat of liberal Senator Thomas A. Burke of Ohio, the conference resolved that, in the future, labor-supported candidates should not take a crucial seat by a handful of votes because of insufficient efforts. Plans were mapped for increased year-round political activities by ILOWU members, including closer cooperation with Labor's League for Political Education. Conference also adopted Kirtzman's recommendation that Educational Director Mark Starr be asked to tour the region to set up a continuing educational program.

Kirtzman reported extensively on the Cleveland health and welfare funds, and William Kaufman reported on the status of the Kentucky funds. In Cleveland, Kirtzman indicated, \$200,285 was paid out in benefits in 1952. He also disclosed that 50 additional members were retired on Jan. 1 for a total of 168. Kaufman stated that in the Kentucky area, a total of \$28,698 was paid out in benefits to the Handmacher-Vogel workers in Glasgow, Harrodsburg, and Lebanon.

Plans were made for the next regional conference in May in Cincinnati, at which all locals would have the same representation as at International conven-

tions. Educational, legal, engineering, political, and research departments of the ILOWU will be asked to send representatives. Economic conditions in the industry were thoroughly surveyed in staff members' reports. The union's victory in stopping the A. J. Herk Co. of Cleveland from subrogating its contract, and gains toward eventual establishment of the 35-hour week in the sportswear and knitgoods industry in Cleveland were emphasized. The Piqua, Ohio, local announced the winning of a three week's vacation for workers employed for 15 years. The Cincinnati Joint Board reported establishment of a retirement fund in the cloak industry, with payment of benefits scheduled to begin by the end of the year.

Action on Legislation Mapped At Confab of 20 N. Y. Locals

Representatives of 20 New York ILOWU locals, at conferences held Jan. 4 and 10, mapped an action program to push for enactment of laws beneficial to the workers and the mass of the people during current sessions of the state and federal legislatures.

These delegated gatherings, composed of 44 members of local executive boards, discussed a report on the results of the 1952 elections and initiated a drive for a revised unemployment insurance law in New York State.

The opening meeting was addressed by Gus Tyler, director of the ILOWU Political Department and David Weis, assistant director. The second session, devoted to revision of the New York State unemployment insurance law, was addressed by Everett Friedman, executive assistant in the ILOWU Research Department.

Delegates will report back to their local executive boards on plans to inform legislators, both state and federal, on the current needs of working people and their families. The "follow-up" campaign will enable members to keep close contact with their elected

Local 22 Initiates Counselling Service

New York Dressmakers' Local 22 has launched a full counselling program to aid members with personal and family problems. Manager Charles Zimmerman announces.

This service will help answer questions on such problems as unemployment insurance, rent, installment procedures, etc. A notary public will be available, and a special service—marriage counselling—will be conducted by Dr. Irving Stuart, practicing psychologist.

Appointments for private consultation with Dr. Stuart should be made at the local's education office, Room 817, 218 West 46th St.

The remainder of the educational program, including such classes as current events, camera club and choral, continues to attract many enthusiastic dressmakers.



950 Score Pact Gains in 3 Upper N. Y. Shops

Major objectives of the Northeast Department were achieved through the signing of new contracts by several of the largest shops in the Update New York District, reports Vice Pres. David Gingold, department director. Gain highlights include the 35-hour week, wage increases and the reopening of a defunct shop.

Baron Bros., dress manufacturers employing 400 in plants in Manhattan and Westfield, N. Y., signed the first contract renewal following unionization in 1932, after holding out for half a century.

The new Baron Bros. agreement provides for establishment of the 35-hour week with a compensating 30 cent general increase, in addition to previously won paid holidays, health and welfare and other benefits.

Other area firms that signed new contracts are Seneca Knitting Mills in Seneca Falls and Elmira Knitting Mills in Elmira. Seneca employs 250 in production of sportswear; Elmira's 300 workers manufacture underwear and sportswear.

At Seneca Knitting Mills, the ILOWU sparked efforts to have the plant reopened under new ownership, after the shop's parent company went out of business, leaving 250 workers without jobs.

Responding to the union's campaign, several local business men arranged to get the shop going again, and signed a two-year union agreement.

Gingold held the new agreements as "a reflection of the work done in all areas of the department, where in the face of the most adverse conditions, the ILOWU continues to win new benefits and job security for its members. Special

credit must be given to Update New York Supervisor Max Weiser and his staff for a job well done under the most difficult conditions."

Weiser also credits the organizational drive at Hy-Grade Newly Co., also known as Bremer Products, in Birmingham, continues in high gear.

This firm, which does custom government work, pays its 100 workers far below the union scale, threatening the stability of the industry. Bitter-end resistance to unionism by gnat gnats such as Endicott Johnson and IBM, added to fear of unemployment, were the major factors in the failure of previous attempts to win this plant for the union.

Countering intimidating tactics by Hy-Grade, in which the firm threatened to close down if the union came in, the union has filed unfair labor practices charges against the firm with the NLRB. Organizer Roger Frommer and Kenneth Pytko, representative of New York Hatweaver Workers' Local 26, are active in this campaign.

105 ILOWU EDUCATION UNITS FUNCTIONING THROUGHOUT U.S.

A report that 105 ILOWU educational centers are functioning full-time throughout the country brought praise from the U.S. Vice Pres. Julius Hochman, chairman of the OEP Education Committee. "The committee is very pleased to hear that these centers, ranging from Montreal to Miami, are carrying on a wide and varied program of educational and cultural activities," Hochman declared.

The report, submitted by Educational Director Mark Starr, shows continued emphasis on classes stressing the rights for citizenship-seeking members, training of officers and chairmen, counselling and mental health. The rights and responsibilities of new members are also outlined by locals through film showings, booklets and discussions.

In each area, some form of educational activity is used to bring members in closer contact with the union. Other programs designed merely for informational purposes are also scheduled.

In New York, for example, the Education Department has launched a new public speaking class and has listed another series of mental health lectures. The former, to be held Monday evenings at 1710 Broadway, begins Feb. 7, 8 P.M. The course will involve exercises in public speaking and talks on labor subjects.

The second series, presented in cooperation with the Asan for the Improvement of Mental Hospitals, opens Feb. 14 with a talk on "Blat Tacklers in Mental Hospitals," by members of the staff of Manhattan State Hospital. The time: 1710 Broadway, Studio A. Place: 8 P.M. Admission: free.

Summing up some results of the past educational season, Starr noted last week that in 1952, 47 school groups and 13 foreign delegations visited ILOWU facilities, 125 rentals of "With These Hands" and ten printings of the film, were made.

Workers' Unity in McAlester Is Bad News for Seamprufe Co.



Year-and-gathering of active members and officers of Local 384, McAlester, Okla., shows the kind of united spirit which is rapidly knocking down anti-union defenses of Seamprufe Co. Attempt to

organize firm receives solid support of members like these, both in McAlester and at firm's other plant in Holdenville, Okla. Since previous close election, pro-union sentiment has increased.

Eu's Persistent Organizing Adds 2 Undie Shops in Jersey

Persistent organization activity by Eastern Out-of-Town Department organizers, sparked by full cooperation from New York Undergarment Local 62, headed by Vice Pres. Louis Stullberg, has resulted in the unionization of two underwear contracting shops in New Jersey. It is reported by Vice Pres. Israel Morowitz, EOT general manager.

The shops, tracked down by organizers and the staff of Union City Local 162, managed by Morris Black, were the objects of unrelenting organization campaigns for over a year. When investigations disclosed that both of these contractors worked for jobs on a contractual basis with Local 62, the cooperation of the New York Undergarment Union was enlisted to break the lengthy drive to a speedy close.

The two shops are the Delmonte Co. of Jersey City and the G. I. Manufacturing Co. of West New York. In both cases, the workers were diligent patriots. Men were released from 40 to 87½ immediately, with the 35-hour week to go into effect Jan. 1, 1954. Compensating was also necessary for the reduction in hours, and both week and piece workers are to receive overtime at the rate of time and one-half for all work they perform after the daily regular hours. Paid holidays, for both piece and week workers, will be paid regular-

ness of whether such working days fall on a working or non-working day of the week or in any non-working week.

Margaret Tringali was selected chairwoman of the Delmonte shop and Monroe Perrelli will serve as chairwoman of the G. I. shop. Working with Manager Morris Black in the organization of these firms were EOT organizers Anthony Alicia and Bernard Cohen.

TRAINING INSTITUTE GETS APPLICATIONS FOR ITS SIXTH TERM

Applications are now being accepted for the 1953-1954 term of the ILOUW Training Institute, Director Arthur A. Edler. The year's term is the sixth of the school dedicated to the professional training of trade union personnel, with special emphasis on organization work.

Tuition is free, expenses are paid for field work, and all students satisfactorily completing the year's sessions are guaranteed positions with the union. Classes are scheduled to start in New York City on June 13. Men and women interested in making service to the trade union movement their life work are encouraged to apply. The number of applicants must be between 25 and 35 and of age 21 and 35 years of age and have at least a high school education. The curriculum consists of six months of lectures and workshop seminars in New York City and six months of field work in the United States of America.

Application forms and further information may be obtained from Director Edler at the ILOUW Training Institute, 171 Broadway, New York 18, N. Y. The deadline for receiving applications to the 1953-1954 class has been set for March 1. The fifth class of institute students to enter full time union service will be graduated in May.

FIGHT POLIO! Join March of Dimes!

N'East Organizing Team Bags 2 More Scranton Area Shops

The Northeast Department's organizing team got off to a fast start for the new year, signing up two new shops in the first week, reports Vice Pres. David Gindoff, department director. As a result, approximately 100 workers have been added to the ranks of those enjoying ILOUW benefits.

Located in the Scranton District of Pennsylvania, the two shops are the Theresa Dress and M and J Dress in CM Forge. Both dress contractors signed standard Pennsylvania Garment Manufacturers Association contracts.

One of the companies, Theresa Dress, had fought the ILOUW bit for almost 20 years. A stepped-up campaign during the past three months, characterized by intensive home campaign and leaflet distribution, convinced the employer it was time to sign. The shop employs 36 workers, M and J Dress employs another 50.

The first break in recent years in the formerly solid ranks of non-union dress contractors in the Scranton area is reported. Emily Dress, employing 40, is in

PRES. MEANY NAMES ARBITER N DISPUTE BETWEEN ILG, OEU

George Meany, president of the American Federation of Labor, has named Elmer T. Walker, executive vice president of the International Assn. of Machinists, to arbitrate disputed issues between the ILOUW and the Office Employer's International Union. These arose during negotiations for the renewal of the agreement covering the division of 600 workers employed by the ILOUW in its General Office in New York.

ILOUW Pres. David Dubinsky, who was in Washington last week to attend the AFL-CIO unity meeting, named Elmer T. Walker, executive vice president of the OEU, on Jan. 5. On Jan. 3 he sent the following telegram to Goughlin:

"Learned from today's New York Times that Local 133 of your international union plans to strike against our General Office. We received no official notification that a strike is contemplated, a courtesy we extend to a firm, which is not a sister organization, but with whom we are in contractual relations.

"The ILOUW has had contractual relations with the AFL office workers union since its inception almost 40 years ago. The current negotiations started October 22. Although we regard our other responsibilities as more important, we have acted as fair, we repeatedly suggested arbitration of all issues in dispute to resolve the impasse.

"We are reluctant to believe that your international prefers a strike to binding arbitration as a method of settling a dispute with another section of the labor movement. There must be within our labor movement someone upon whom both our unions can rely for a fair and equitable decision.

"Our General Executive Board, in action this morning, decided to notify you of this situation, to renew our offer of arbitration, and to ask you as president of the OEU, to direct your Local 133 to call off all projected strikes and to accept our offer of arbitration. For our part, we pledge to abide by the arbitrator's decision. Copy sent to Pres. Meany."

Pres. Meany advised the contractor that a strike of one union against another AFL union would be highly improper, especially in view of the garment workers' effort to arbitrate. At their meeting Presidents Goughlin and Dubinsky agreed to have Pres. Meany appoint the arbitrator to whom the disputed issues have been referred.

He had already applied for membership in the Pennsylvania Garment Manufacturers Assn.

The Northeast Department's new Mobile Health Center, formerly placed in Cordonado, played an effective role in helping to tell the people about the ILOUW and in breaking down previous resistance, and greatly improved the entire community.

Scranton District Manager Harry Schneider signed the new shops, along with Business Agent Joe Wylan at Theresa, and M and J. Edl Bayard, head of the Pennsylvania branch, also visited the shops and was active in the Theresa Dress campaign, as well as in continuing organization drives throughout the state.

Greetings from the Rio Grande



Women representatives of Mexican trade unions visiting this country are greeted in ILOUW General Headquarters by Fannie Cohn (second from right), secretary of Educational Department. Group comprises both union officers and members. Tour is under auspices of U. S. Department of Labor Office of International Labor Affairs.

ON YOUR MIND Need Psychological Guidance To Treat Compulsive Drives

By DR. BERNARD J. BRESLAU
Psychologist, Assn. for Interpersonal Dynamics, New York City

"I possess a strong mysterious force in myself that tells me what to do and what not to do, which disturbs me more than anything else," writes a member, in a long and interesting account of himself.

If he has occasion to wear a new suit, for instance, this inner force will raise excesses that torment him and delay his using the new item. He is constantly battling with this "mysterious urge" as he calls it, so if he wears another person apart from himself, and "it wins most of the time." If he wishes to select a particular tie, "it" bids him to take another, which is "luckier."

After wearing an undershirt sometimes for only half an hour, he is compelled to change it for another. Similarly, having ordered something in a restaurant, once he must order it every time. He must walk on the same side of the street, he must ride the same side of the bus or subway. If he notices something while walking, he must turn back to take a second look.

One can well imagine how complicated this man's life is. He is constantly hiding these symptoms from others, avoiding associates, friends and relatives, and fearful of spotting his peculiarities. His daily life is a continuous inner struggle.

This member's problem cannot be resolved by mere advice in a column such as this. The motivation, the deeper conflicts behind his doubts and anxieties can be learned only by professional examination, and he is being advised to seek such advice.

However, we can gain some hints of the psychology in us from the story of Peter O., a patient who, too, was dominated by compulsions which distorted his life until they were dissolved by psychological treatment.

Peter had the misfortune to lose his faith in both of his parents at about the same time. As a little boy he loved his mother deeply, but at the age of 11 he started to treat her as a fool because of her timidity and fears of people and places. Simultaneously, he was revolted by the way his father terrified his mother, as well as his nights away from home, his fearful temper. Peter's sole comfort was his grandfather, who occupied the apartment downstairs. He responded warmly to the comradeship of the lonely old man and soon their active sharing of interests became the most important part of his life.

But Peter's sole link with security became threatened when his grandfather became sick. Fearful that he would lose his only source of affection if the old man died, Peter became absorbed with the possibility of losing him. Over a period of several months, he began to develop symptoms which had the character of magical acts designed to prevent the catastrophe of his grandfather's death. If the thought crossed his mind that the house might burn, he felt compelled to touch the door to avert this danger. If he had such a thought while sleeping on a crack, he had to step on the crack again to cancel the thought. Soon he needed extra touchings for good measure.

When people began to notice his peculiar behavior, he developed a technique for discharging all the uneasy thoughts of the day in the privacy of his bedroom at night. If he peeped four times (a lucky number) to the southwest (a lucky direction), he could counteract the danger. But he never felt satisfied. He had to peep 228 times (four times four times four times four), and this took half an hour.

Peter's need for love was so great that he overdid his effort to create personal security. His feeling of weakness and helplessness was so great that mere reassurance of his grandfather's love was not sufficient; he adopted desperate measures designed to avert anxiety. This recurrent effort, this single-minded rigidity, distinguished his neurotic trend from a straightforward expression of normal fears.

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT TOPS SPEAKERS LIST AT ILG'S UN SESSION

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt and four representatives of United Nations agencies will be featured speakers at the Education Department-sponsored session "The UN and World Affairs," to be held at Carnegie International Center on Saturday, Jan. 22.

In addition to Mrs. Roosevelt, the assemblage will hear talks by Ambassador Salomons of the UN Department of Public Information, Solomon V. Aronson, director of UNRRA's New York Office, Rowland Herrick, public relations officer of the International Labor Organization and Norman Luker of the Technical Assistance Administration.

At the close of the session, members will be escorted across the street for a conducted tour of UN facilities. Carnegie International Center is located at 46th St. and First Ave. facing UN headquarters. The program, which starts at 9:30 A.M., will review the achievements of the UN and the problems which it is faced for the world organization.

Theatre Party

Special price of \$1.25 a seat has been obtained for the Saturday Jan. 29 matinee performance of "Merchant of Venice" at the Theatre. 35 East 78th St. Members who wish to attend must register at the office of Paul J. John, Education Department, 171B Broadway, New York.

Hunter Class

Henry David, professor of economics at Columbia University and noted historian, will be the speaker at the Hunter College session set for Saturday, Feb. 5. His topic will be "The U.S. is going on in our country."

The Hunter sessions, which are held weekly, begin at 1:30 p.m. in Room 148 at the college, 49th St. and Park Ave.

Discussions also continue Thursday evenings at Tuxedo High School. Current topics are offered by Bernard Stern, Julius Mannon and Abe Weiss. Sessions are in Room 406 at 18th St. between 8th and 9th Aves.

Many Skilled Cutters Retire, Serious Shortage Developing

A gradually developing shortage of exceptionally skilled cutters in the coat and suit industry, especially for work on high-priced merchandise, was the subject of comment recently by Local 10 Manager Mo Falkman. While this matter was beginning to assume acute proportions in the cloak trade, he said, a similar condition, but to a lesser extent, was also developing in the segment of the dress trade manufacturing expensive garments.

Falkman noted that next month an additional 5 cloak cutters will start receiving their pension checks from the industry's retirement fund and that 76 others had retired last year, bringing the total of those who have left the trade by reason of retirement during the past nine years to 340. For the cloak and dress trades combined, the total number of retired cutters is close to 500. This does not include the loss through death of about 700 members during the same period.

Among those who have been retired or died, Falkman said, were many of the most experienced craftsmen in the trade. They had been unusually expert in marking and grading as well as chopping. Some had been as head cutters in the past.

A further depletion of highly skilled cutters is inevitable during the next few years, Falkman said. There are a considerable number of top-notch mechanics now working in the trade who are at or above 65 years of age. (Only cloak cutters of 70 years old and over are among the 52 now being retired, as only such a number can be retired for whom funds are available—older members some find). Moreover, there are a considerable number of experienced tailors and dressmakers who are now past 60. A survey of the industry prepared last February, which showed that there were 234 cloak and 234 dress cutters who were 60 to 64 years of age.

These older cutters, Falkman said, not only represent accumulated skill and experience in terms of the cutters' craft, but even more important, they are imbued with some of the highest traditions of Local 10. For decades they have been the very backbone of the organization, loyally participating in its struggles, sharing in its sacrifices and rejecting in its victories. It is only just, Falkman said, that so many of these members have lived to see the fruits of their labor and to share in the gains achieved, especially the privilege to retire and receive a pension in addition to social security, plus a 4000 lump sum payment from Local 10.

However, as they leave the trade, a void is created, particularly in the ranks of highly skilled cutters, he said, who explain why it has become increasingly difficult to supply shop requiring craftsmen of exceptional ability and experience.

Perhaps, the problem is one that can be met, Falkman declared. He indicated that young men had entered the trade in recent years and had attained considerable proficiency, especially as choppers. It was essential, he said, to approach some of these promising young people so they will become skilled not merely in chopping but in marking and grading and thus have the high degree of competence essential for work on better line merchandise or putting them to quality as head cutters.

That this was practical was re-

LOCAL 10 REGULAR MEETING

MONDAY

Jan. 31

Night after work
MANHATTAN CENTER
34th Street and 8th Avenue

ently proved when several young men, below 40 years of age, were given an opportunity to gain the required skill and experience and were later successfully placed on jobs in some outstanding shops in the cloak industry, and in a few instances, as head cutters.

In order to meet the problem in a systematic rather than a haphazard way, Falkman suggested that this might be accomplished through the joint cooperation of the Needle Trades High School, the union and the employers. Young cutters who had demonstrated ability would be given the opportunity to improve their skills. The school would give the necessary courses in advanced work, especially marking and grading. The employers would be possible to obtain the necessary shop experience. And the union would live in every manner to assure successful results.

Dress Tailors
Conferences for renewal of agreements in the dress trade were scheduled to be resumed Jan. 15. Manager Falkman and Assistant Manager Goldsberg are representing the cutters in the negotiations. As previously noted, the union is asking for a wage increase and a rise in the contract minimum, an additional increase of 1 per cent in the dress trade. The union also is asking for a pension fund and improvement in connection with payment to workers for legal holidays.

Get 1955 Books
Cutters of Local 10 should apply at the union office to obtain their working cards for the first half of 1955. Prompt action will be helpful in the motion picture of the famous opera now showing at the Little Carnegie Theatre in New York City and produced by Ted Hurd, director of Local 28 Ladies' Tailors and Custom Dressmakers.

'Aida,' 'Flowering Peach' Tickets on Sale at Locals

Special ticket prices for union members of 41, instead of the regular \$1.00 price, have been obtained for "Aida," the motion picture of the famous opera now showing at the Little Carnegie Theatre in New York City and produced by Ted Hurd, director of Local 28 Ladies' Tailors and Custom Dressmakers.

The special tickets, available at the local 10 union office, are available anytime during the day or evening from Monday to Thursday. A "Flowering Peach" starring Minnie Skubicki. Donks at \$2.30 can be obtained from Masur at Room 817, 218 West 40th St.

"Hi, Pal!"



The Undying

By MAX PRESS

Play them, starve them, they still live on.
Shed them, but still they do not die.
When all your firing-squads are
Men will remember where they lie.
The courage of the heart lives on.
Disaster takes no toll of truth;
Honor sustains them at the wall.
And peace is where they give up
soul.

They go, but time will bring them back
In some bright hour of the world to be
Time will lift them from the pits of death;
The godless, the undying Free.

NECKWEAR WORKERS FILE FOR PENSIONS

Prospective retirees of Local 162, New York Neckwear Workers, have begun receiving applications. Manager Joseph Turin reports. The applications will be processed by the Board of Trustees of the Retirement Fund when it meets in March.

Union members of the board are Turin and Jack Liebow and Lilian Siering, chairman and secretary of the local, respectively. Employer representatives are Irving Weber, Samuel Kuris, and George Martin, of the National Women's Neckwear and Scarf Assn.

An agreement stabilizing piecework rates in the covered shoulder pad industry has been accepted by shop chairman and chairladies, while negotiations continue for an artificial flower employees. The union, represented through its Stabilization Committee, submitted a report on Jan. 5 announcing tentative agreement had been reached in the covered pad section.

Thirty-day notice has been served on artificial flower employees in accordance with the Taft-Hartley Act. That the current agreement expires in March. The union has informed the employers that demands for a new pact will include wage increases and other improvements.

A chairman's meeting is scheduled for the first week in February to discuss the proposed demands and hear recommendations before the new contract is submitted to the employers.

NEW VOTE SEEN NEAR AT MANCHESTER UNIT OF SIDNEY ELLIS CO.

The Cloak Out-of-Town Department's drive to organize Manchester, Mo., the Sidney Ellis cloak plant in Manchester, Conn., is moving steadily ahead, reports General Manager George Rubin. The union stepped up its campaign as the firm started work on the spring season after New Year's.

Vice Pres. Rubin reported that a staff of organizers is signing up many workers, and indicated an early National Labor Relations Board election would be sought. In the previous balloting held in October, 1953, the union was barely noted out by nine votes out of over 500.

At present, conditions in the shop are reported to be worse than ever, and there is growing support for union representation. Job conditions has shaped up as a pressing issue, as a number of workers have been dropped summarily from the payroll.

Cloak Out-of-Town organizers, who are devoting much of their time to union "house riding," report that pro-union sentiment is rising among the workers. Other aspects of the organizing campaign are committee meetings and effective publicity.

Sufficient cards for requesting an election are expected to be obtained shortly. These will be submitted to the NLRB's First Region Office in Boston, which will set the date for a new vote.

Manager Notes to Report At Skirtmakers' Meeting

New York skirtmakers will hear a report on the work of the local during 1954 from Manager Louis Reis, at a membership meeting of Local 23 on Thursday, Jan. 27, 8 P.M., at Hotel Diplomat, 188 West 43rd St. Following the manager's report, Everett Friedman, NLRB's regional research director, will explain the provisions of the York State's unemployment insurance law and answer questions.

Spouse-appealing members may still join the classes in English which Local 23 conducts every Monday and Wednesday, from 8 to 9 P.M., at the office of the local, 22 West 38th St. (8th floor). Those interested should inform their shop chairman.

BOOK FRONT

by Marion Spachman

Big Business Folly In 'Dollar Decade' Brought New Deal

DOLLAR DECADE. By James W. Prother, Louisiana State University Press, \$4.75.

For older citizens of this nation there has been a familiar ring about many of the statements and pronouncements coming out of Washington in recent years. A number of these have originated with members of the new Administration drawn from the Big Business community. The close parallels are, of course, Mr. Wilson's immortal comment comparing work-



ers with bird-dogs and his earlier remark that what is good for General Motors is good for the country.

Prof. Prother of Florida State University now has made it possible for us to see the family resemblance of these statements by examining the thought of an avowed business man. He has given his candid opinion by limiting his story to statements of policy made by business leaders during the decade of the Nineteen Twenties when, as now, leaders of Big Business were in government and community saddles.

In this sense the reader of this book will discover that business men now involved in shaping public policy think along lines that have changed very little since 1920. The "newspaper work" is the dollar decade, was looked upon as an unending creature which never was intended for his lack of ambition and initiative. All would be well for him and the country if, instead of working to expand democratic freedom, he left the conduct of affairs to his business betters.

A reviewing of the statements that come from the National Assn. of Manufacturers and the Chamber of Commerce of the United States will make the reason for the advent of the New Deal clear. Prof. Prother relies mainly on these two organizations for the material he analyzes. The low estimate of workers implicit in these materials is what made the New Deal reaction in favor of liberalism inevitable.

The difference between the Nineteen Twenties and the Nineteen Fifties is the New Deal. Americans are not content to permit, discarded the New Deal clear. Prof. Prother relies mainly on these two organizations for the material he analyzes. The low estimate of workers implicit in these materials is what made the New Deal reaction in favor of liberalism inevitable.

"Dollar Decade" is an excellent, scholarly warning that vigilance is still the order of the day.

THE TREASURY OF SCIENCE FICTION CLASSICS. Edited by Harlow W. Kasher. Harrower Books, \$2.50.

The Fiction writers' attempts to peep into the future have risen in popularity to such a degree, when many have come to doubt that the world will long continue to have a future in this realm much of science fiction is concerned with the end of the world as we know it.

But much of it also deals with possible use of new sources of energy, new travel into outer space, with the wonders of time and matter. Atomic sciences have advanced so far into the future that the possibility of the flight of fiction writers takes on the semblance of probability.

LOCAL 117
N. Cook Operatives
Membership Meeting
WEDNESDAY, JAN. 26
after work
Hotel Diplomat
188 West 43rd St.

Manager Benjamin Kaplan will discuss the industrial situation.

JUSTICE

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

NOT ENOUGH

JUDGING BY HIS STATE OF THE UNION address, the President's middle-of-the-road philosophy can serve only to muddle America's sense of direction. He sits at the wheel, steps on the gas—and stalls on the white line.

In this respect, the President's recommendation on housing is most revealing. Let's authorize 35,000 public housing units for each of the next two years, says he. The President's own most sincerely conservative advisor, the late Senator Taft, would have branded this as a tragically inadequate figure. Yet, under the Eisenhower Administration, the road of national policy has been shifted so far to the right that even this pitiful bid can be presented as a liberal, middle-of-the-road proposal.

Mr. Eisenhower repeated to the Congress his campaign pledge to seek changes in the Taft-Hartley Act that would rid it of its worst labor-busting features. His own Secretary of Labor has pointed to the so-called "right-to-work" (wreck) state laws as the source of the most vicious threats to organized labor today.

But Mr. Eisenhower is mum on these laws. He wants an end to the disbarment of strikers in representation elections (simple justice demands this). He asks that employers as well as union officers be required to sign the Taft-Hartley anti-Communist affidavits (thus spreading the original insult). But he says not a word about the state labor-wrecking laws spawned by Taft-Hartley, doing its dirty work, existing by virtue of that law and which could be wiped out simply by getting section 14(b) of that act removed.

The President calls for lifting the minimum wage to 90 cents an hour. That, in this day and age, comes to \$36 for a 40-hour-week's work. The 15-cent boost is a puny effort to balance the tremendous increase in labor force and productivity that has characterized our national economy in the post-war years. Both the AFL and the CIO have asked for a minimum wage of \$1.25, which would more adequately reflect industrial progress and replenish consumer purchasing power.

AN INADEQUATE MINIMUM WAGE protected by anti-labor state laws can sharpen inter-regional wage competition. This combination is the perfect tool for those who dream of pulling higher wages down rather than lifting lower wages up. The increasing dispersion of industry, made easier by the new role of industrial engineers and automation, makes more urgent the need for an adequate minimum wage to cover not only the mainland but also such industrial outposts as Puerto Rico, where needle trades, for example, come well within the orbit of mainland competition.

Last March, AFL Pres. Meany urged Labor Secretary Mitchell to seek modification of the Fair Labor Standards Act that would (1) change the method of appointing special industry committees and (2) provide cents-per-hour increases in Puerto Rican minimum wages similar to those enacted for the mainland industries.

At that time, Pres. Meany declared that Puerto Rican public representatives on the committees "seem to deem it their primary function to preserve the unfair competitive advantage and vote for minimum wages below those which should be deemed fair and would enable Puerto Rico to compete fairly with the manufacturers on the mainland."

Similar cents-per-hour increases in the minimum wage would preserve for the island its fair advantages. A boost of 25 cents in the mainland minimum to \$1 would require, under this formula, a raise of 25 cents in the island minimum of 55 cents for conset and brasserie workers, for example. The new 80-cent minimum thus would preserve a 20-cent competitive advantage for the island.

REGARDLESS OF WHERE he chooses to locate the middle of the road, Mr. Eisenhower cannot hope to move forward without due regard for the speeding two-way traffic. In any case, the old-fashioned Stanley Steamer he unveiled in his speech to the Congress is not a suitable vehicle for getting ahead in this streamlined, chromium-plated, high-powered age.

"Friendship Knot"



"Heat Wave"



Ohms and Atoms

By
David Sarnoff

From a lecture by the chairman of the board, Radio Corporation of America, at College of the City of New York.

WE must face the fact that we live in a scientific age—the Electronic and Atomic Age. We live in a period that has bridged time and distance. We harnessed the forces of nature so that life is easier for more people than it ever was before.

But in creating new opportunities, we have also created problems that leave many people with a feeling of insecurity. So we find the world presently engaged in a great ideological struggle.

It has always been true that the things men live with largely determine the ideas men live by. When the Western world learned how to use gunpowder, it meant the beginning of the end of knightliness and the feudal system. When Eli Whitney invented the cotton gin, it was the beginning of the end of slavery. When the tractor and the harvester and the reaper were developed, we began to see a trend away from the small family farm.

The automobile changed the pattern of rural life. Radio, television and electronics already have changed many of our ways of daily life, and along with continued research bid fair to change our pattern of living.

SCIENCE, through research, has a unique way of edging up to an existing industry or business to completely revolutionize routines and operations, to increase their safety and productivity and to provide a better return for labor on its effort and for capital on its investment.

From the broad viewpoint, our whole pattern of life—our homes and clothing, the automobiles, planes and trains we travel in—all are products of scientific research. And our social, political and economic institutions—even the conflicts involving them—are affected by that research.

Already, the youthful electronic industry has achieved prodigious in excess of \$8 billion a year—yet it is founded on the finest thing in the world—the electron. Modern methods of communication, mass entertainment, transportation, the electron microscope, industrial television, radar—all are dependent on the electron.

From the viewpoint of the country as a whole, we may be sure that it will mean many new jobs for every job cancelled out. The contrast between the millions employed by the automotive and related

industries and the employment provided by the blacksmith shops they displaced, is an overworked example. But it tells the basic story—the example is true but true.

THIS generation is fortunate in being on the threshold of electronics, and also of atomic energy, another vast field for opportunity and advancement.

Today, 73 per cent of electric power in the United States is derived from steam power plants fired by coal, oil or gas, and nearly all the rest from water power. In the years ahead, electricity will be increasingly derived from atomic energy. I believe that we may look forward to the day when atomic generators of electricity will be small enough for installation in the home.

Scientific research is the basis for virtually all of the material things we have today and for the better things we hope to enjoy tomorrow. For example, we are now engaged in the development of a new form of light—electronic light—a first benefit of which will be bigger and brighter television pictures in the home. I believe that the TV tube of today will eventually be eliminated. It will be displaced by a thin, flat screen like a picture on the wall. Or, it may be in an easel-like frame that will sit on your living room table and, being portable, can be moved to any other part of the room or household in the home.

Television, however, is only one of the avenues through which electronic light will flow into daily life. In other areas, the electronic light amplifier may be expected to lead to devices which will make vision possible in darkness. These will add greatly to the safety of our transportation on land, at sea and in the air. The perils of night driving, too, are likely to be reduced by electronic devices that will provide far-reaching light without glare.

GRREAT is the inventory of this twentieth century. It includes substantial improvements in man's lot, a quick-and-easy sense of social responsibility, and unprecedented opportunities for service on both the material and the spiritual levels.

Our greatest advantage is that we are Americans who are free to live, learn, work and advance, in an atmosphere where the dignity and rights of man are the foundations of our national structure. And there are foundations upon which a more stable world can be built.